

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 201377
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY A/SY/OPS/FO:PIHARRICK:HH
APPROVED BY M - BEN H. READ
A/SY/OPS - VFST. MARS
A/SY - KDACKERMAN
M/CT - ACEQUAINTON
A - JTHOMAS
S/S-O:JETHYDEN

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R 092033Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

S E C R E T STATE 201377

STADIS////////////////////////////////////
EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS 5B(3)

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT:PROGRAMS TO COMBAT TERRORISM

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FOR AMBASSADOR OR PRINCIPAL OFFICER FROM DEPUTY
UNDERSECRETARY READ

1. IN ADDITION TO THE DEPARTMENT'S OWN EFFORTS, A NUMBER
OF CONCERNED U.S. GOVERNMENT AGENCIES ARE UPGRADING THEIR
CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND CAPABILITIES. WHILE OUR EFFORTS
HAVE FOCUSED ON PREVENTION OR DETERRENCE, WE RECOGNIZE

THAT EVEN THE MOST SOPHISTICATED SYSTEMS CAN BE OVERCOME BY TERRORISTS WILLING AND DARING ENOUGH TO TAKE CALCULATED RISKS. CONTINGENCY PLANNING AT THE WASHINGTON LEVEL MUST THEREFORE PREPARE FOR WORST CASE SCENARIOS, INCLUDING TERRORIST TAKE-OVERS OF U.S. MISSION FACILITIES ABROAD. IN SUCH A CASE ONE OPTION IS THE USE OF SPECIALLY TRAINED U.S. MILITARY FORCES.

2. OF PARTICULAR CONCERN, SHOULD A RESCUE OPERATION BECOME IMPERATIVE, IS THE SAFETY OF THOSE INVOLVED, BOTH RESCUING FORCES AND HOSTAGES, AND THE SPEED AND PRECISION WITH WHICH THE ACTION CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED. A VIABLE MILITARY OPTION REQUIRES THAT ACCURATE AND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, INCLUDING DETAILS OF PUBLIC ACCESS CONTROLS,

FLOOR PLANS, PHOTOGRAPHS, ROAD AND CITY MAPS, AND RELATED EXHIBITS FOR ALL U.S. MISSION INSTALLATIONS BE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE AT THE WASHINGTON LEVEL.

3. BY SEPARATE MESSAGE, REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICERS WILL BE ASKED TO PROVIDE THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION. THE EXPERTISE OF THE DEFENSE ATTACHE AS WELL AS OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE REGIONAL SECURITY OFFICER IN COMPLETING A SURVEY OF THIS MAGNITUDE. I ASK YOUR ACTIVE INTEREST IN INSURING THAT WHERE REQUESTED, MISSION ELEMENTS EXTEND APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE TO ENABLE
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EXPEDITIOUS COMPLETION OF THIS EXERCISE. REPORTS SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT WITHIN 30 - 45 DAYS.

4. FINALLY, BECAUSE OF THE OBVIOUS SENSITIVITY OF THIS PROJECT, I REQUEST THAT THIS TELEGRAM BE CLOSELY HELD. VANCE

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NNN

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